

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 10 have been rejected under 35 USC § 102(b). Claims 2-9 and claim 11 have been objected to. Claims 1 and 10 have been amended.

The Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the subject application and respectfully request reconsideration of the subject application based on the above amendments and the following remarks.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) REJECTIONS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 10 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 6,157,018 to Ishiguro ("Ishiguro" or the "Ishiguro Reference"). Claim 10 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 11. Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to distinguish the invention as claimed further from the cited art.

Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to recite that the optical member is solid. However, the Ishiguro reference, which corresponds to Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication Number 11-174603 that is cited on page 7 of the specification, and conventional optical members are hollow. More specifically, Ishiguro teaches a center needle 4 with a "thin conical shape" and other conventional rod-shaped members. As a result, additional structure is needed to mechanically support the rod-like member or "thin conical shape" provided along the axis of rotation of the convex rotational mirror. By using a solid optical member, the present invention requires no such mechanical support structure. Indeed, Figures 1, 2, and 4-8 clearly show that the optical member is a solid structure.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that, claim 1 is not anticipated by Ishiguro; and further, satisfies all of the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 100, et seq., especially § 102(b). Accordingly, claims 1-10 are allowable. Moreover, it is

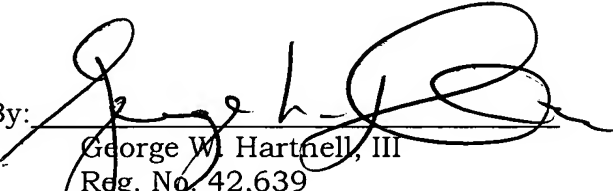
respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

If for any reason a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **04-1105**.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 6, 2005

By:


George W. Hartnell, III
Reg. No. 42,639
Attorney for Applicant(s)

EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP
P.O. Box 55874
Boston, MA 02205
(617) 517-5523
Customer No.: 21,874
491199

IN THE FIGURES

Please replace the figures with the enclosed substitution figures. FIG. 9 has been amended to include the legend – PRIOR ART --. No new matter has been added.